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SOURCE As indicated

DATA ON THE ESTONIAN SHALE INDUSTRY

[Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

In 1952, shale workers in the Estonian shale basin extracted 39.9 percent more shale than in 1950. By the end of the Fifth Five-Year Plan, the shale output of the basin will be 2 3 times that of 1950.(1)

Mine No 10 has been constructed since the war. Most of the work processes in this mine are mechanized, but until recently moving of mine cars was done by manual labor. Now this process is also mechanized. Main haulage passages and coal faces are lighted by daylight lamps.

Mine No 10 exceeded the first quarter 1953 plan and also fulfilled its May quota ahead of schedule.(2) The mine has pledged to fulfill the 1953 plan for shale extraction by 15 December and is making progress toward keeping this promise. By 9 July 1953, it had already shipped 26 trainloads of shale above the plan. Labor productivity in the mine is 3 percent above the plan and is 11 percent higher than in 1952.(3)

In the third section of Mine No 10, a new method of making a deeper cut in the face with the cutting machine has been developed. A young cutting-machine operator, in collaboration with the engineering and technical personnel of the mine administration, designed a new bar for the cutting machine which was 2.4 meters long, that is, 40 centimeters longer than the usual cutting bars. The productivity of the cutting machine has risen 22 percent, and in one cutting from the face 2½ more carloads of shale are extracted than previously. The deepened cut was combined with the drilling of deeper boreholes.(4) The multiple-purpose brigade of development workers is using cutting machines with lengthened cutting bars in development work also.(3)

Shale Mine No 2 completed the 5-month plan one half month ahead of schedule. During 4 months the shale output was many thousands of tons above the plan. The plan for the output of technological shale for the first quarter was fulfilled

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116.4 percent, and the plan for shipping shale, 120.3 percent. Shale of all types shipped to the consumer conformed to the established GOST in rock and fines content and in calorific value. (5)

About the middle of June 1953, the first section of Mine No 2 began to work seam F of the Estonian shale deposits according to a new technology. This seam had not been worked previously because of technical difficulties, but Moscow and Leningrad scientists had conducted experiments and established the possibility and expediency of working it. Miners of the first section were soon working seam F successfully, and by the last days of June they had begun to exceed their quotas. (6)

Workers of the Kokhtla-Yarve Combine have exceeded the obligations which they assumed and are still performing well. The daily output of gas has already reached the level planned for 1955. (7) By the end of the second year of the Fifth Five-Year Plan, the gas output was so high that gas for domestic purposes could be sent not only to the inhabitants of Leningrad but also to Tallin. Recently, gas burners were made available also in apartments of Kokhtla-Yarve workers.

The output of liquid fuel from Estonian shale is also increasing. (1)

#### SOURCES

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2. Moscow, Pravda, 2 Jun 53
3. Moscow, Izvestiya, 9 Jul 53
4. Moscow, Trud, 5 Jun 53
5. Sovetskaya Estoniya, 27 May 53
6. Ibid, 4 Jul 53
7. Izvestiya, 12 May 53

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